



21 West Court Street Marion, North Carolina 28752
p. (828) 655-1399 info@brcmarion.org

SERMON RESOURCES

Sunday, July 14, 2013

Do You Want to Be Well? Jesus Heals the Man at the Pool of Bethesda

Central Text:

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

²Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic⁽¹⁾ called Bethesda,⁽²⁾ which has five roofed colonnades. ³In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed.⁽⁴⁾ ⁵One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” ⁷The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” ⁸Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” ⁹And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath. ¹⁰So the Jews⁽⁴⁾ said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.” ¹¹But he answered them, “The man who healed me, that man said to me, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’” ¹²They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk?’” ¹³Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. ¹⁴Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.” ¹⁵The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. ¹⁶And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”

John 5:1-17 (ESV)

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

1. Verse 5 - The man in this passage had been lame for 38 years and was waiting for physical

healing or rescue.

- How long have you been waiting for some type of rescue from your problems?
- Is the wait making you anxious, depressed, angry, or something else?
- Was Jesus there to provide physical rescue or spiritual healing?
- What if Jesus chooses not to bring a change in your physical circumstances, but rather a transformation in your spiritual health?
- Are you emotionally ready for the option of spiritual transformation without physical rescue?

2. Describe a spiritual transformation that Christ has taken you through.

- Is it complete?
- Are you experiencing greater victories with the passage of time?

3. Reflection: The gift of eternal life requires a response. That response is often described as irresistible. In other words, it is our response but we are so drawn to Christ that it is the only response we can make (like when your mouth begins to water in response to the smell of brownies).

At the same time, we respond because we trust what is true rather than what we feel. All that said, how do you embrace eternal life and spiritual healing?

Additional Resources and Art Forms:

[Slideshow: Various Artists' Depictions of This Miracle](#)

Questions about your spiritual journey? Need to talk with someone?

Email Pastor Steve: shawkins@brcmarion.org